



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Planning Coordinating Committee

**Date:** October 1, 2008

**From:** Andrew Williams-Clark, Project Manager

**Re:** Regional Indicators

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At the September meeting of the Planning Coordinating Committee, staff described the process for developing indicators to track the region's progress toward the Regional Vision. At the October meeting, staff will request that the committee recommend endorsement of the indicators to the CMAP Board on November 12 and to the MPO Policy Committee on October 9.

The recommended indicators are attached to this memo. They are listed by theme, and the themes are arranged alphabetically. Some indicators appear under multiple themes, and a complete list of all proposed indicators appears at the end of the attachment.

Please note that there are several differences between the attached list and the draft list of indicators that was distributed to the committee members in September. These changes were made based on stakeholder input, and include the following:

- A series of indicators have been proposed to measure arts and culture (under the "culture" heading). There is a placeholder indicator for sports and recreation, but this has yet to be developed.
- A workforce development indicator was removed, and replaced with a placeholder indicator (listed as indicator 2.3 under "economic competitiveness.") The initial indicator measured "number of adult participants in workforce development programs who are employed in the first quarter after the exit quarter," but economic development and workforce development stakeholders did not believe that this was the best measure of the concept.
- A series of food-related indicators have been proposed to measure food security, hunger, and food system strength. These are listed in a category under "health."
- Several placeholder indicators exist in the "health" heading. Measures of these concepts have yet to be finalized.

- An indicator seeking to measure development that could be served by public sewer and water systems was modified (indicator 3.1 under “land use and reinvestment.”) The previous indicator sought to measure this using FPA boundaries, but more effective means of measurement have been proposed and will be explored.
- The Transportation committee made several modifications to the indicators in that topic, in particular in the areas of transit, TOD, and system maintenance, and formally recommended the new version to the MPO Policy Committee at their September 26 meeting.

On October 8, staff will ask the Planning Committee to endorse the attached draft indicator list for Board and MPO Policy Committee approval. This will allow us to start collection of data and development of visualizations. As CMAP continues to develop the plan, we may find other indicators or data sets that are better ways to measure our progress as a region, and as this occurs, staff expect to tweak the indicator list to reflect these improvements. The committees will be consulted as new indicators are examined and placeholder indicators are more firmly identified.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Recommendation to the Board and MPO Policy Committee to endorse the list of tracking indicators for initial data collection and visualization work.

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